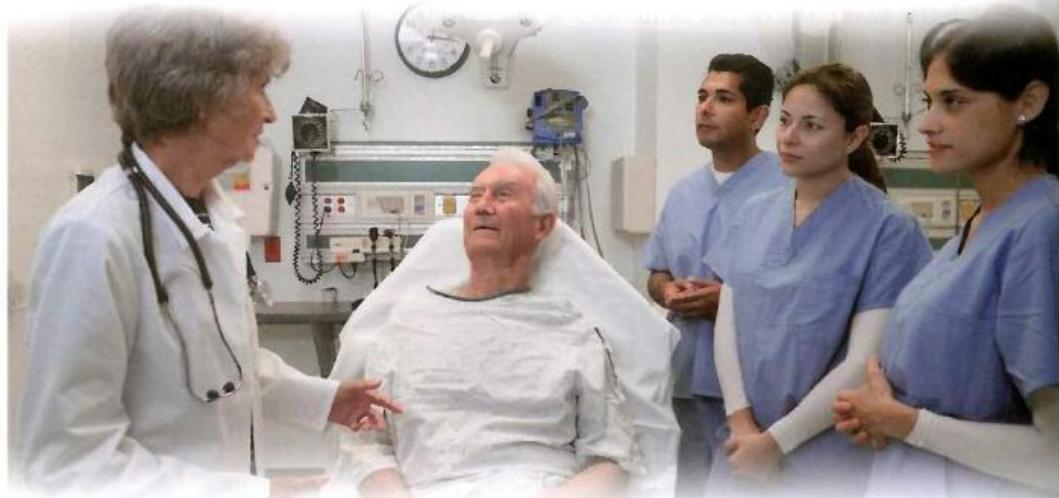


85 Verb + object + infinitive; *make* and *let*



Professor Maclean teaches student nurses to ask all the right questions.

1 Verb + object + infinitive

After some verbs, we can put an infinitive alone, or we can put an object before the infinitive:

SUBJECT	VERB	OBJECT	INFINITIVE WITH <i>to</i>
Lucy	wants		<i>to go to university.</i>
Carol	wants	her daughter	<i>to go to university.</i>
Carol	would like	her	<i>to go to university.</i>

Other examples of verbs like this are: *ask, expect, help* and *need*:
She asked me to phone her. She asked to see the doctor.



We don't use *that* ... after these verbs:

✗ *Do you want that we bring some food to the party?*
✓ *Do you want us to bring some food to the party?*

But some verbs ALWAYS have an object before the infinitive (e.g. *advise, allow, invite, teach, tell, order, warn*):

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✗ *The teacher told to be quiet.* ✓ *The teacher told us to be quiet.*

We can make these sentences negative. We put *not* after the object and before *to*:
The teacher told us not to make a noise. The doctor advised him not to smoke.

2 *make* and *let*

After *make* and *let*, we put an object + the infinitive without *to*:

The cold weather made the lake freeze. (= The cold weather caused the lake to freeze.)



✗ *Our teacher made us to do extra homework.*

✓ *Our teacher made us do extra homework.* (= She forced us to do extra homework.)



✗ *Our teacher let us to leave early.*

✓ *Our teacher let us leave early.* (= She allowed us to leave early.)

Look at the difference between *let + object + infinitive* and *let's + infinitive*:

Our teacher let us leave early. (= Our teacher allowed us to leave early.)

Let's leave early today. (= I suggest that we leave early today.)

Practice

1 Choose the correct words in *italics*.

- 0 My teacher made me *write* / to *write* a long report.
- 1 I asked *them* / *they* to give me the answers.
- 2 Would you prefer the children *go* / *to go* by train or by bus?
- 3 My teacher made me *take* / *to take* the test again.
- 4 The doctor told Gary *to not carry* / *not to carry* heavy suitcases.
- 5 The shop assistant advised *we* / *us* to keep our receipts.
- 6 Will they let me *bring* / *to bring* my dictionary into the exam?

2 GRAMMAR IN USE Complete the text with the words and phrases from the box.

help us understand his clients asks have would like lets them makes to talk

DANIEL FULTON is a special kind of doctor – his clients are people who have mental problems. He uses the ideas of the famous doctor and writer Sigmund Freud. Freud's ideas helped us (0) *understand* how the human mind works.

Daniel (1) people with mental problems to lie on a sofa and relax. Then he tells them (2) about their problems. He (3) his clients talk about their dreams as well as their real problems. He believes our dreams (4) to understand our feelings. Daniel also thinks bad experiences when we are young sometimes make us (5) mental problems



when we are adults, so he often asks (6) to talk about their childhood. Daniel doesn't say very much to his clients. He (7) talk about anything – all their feelings and emotions, what they (8) to do and what they feel about other people. He thinks that talking about problems is the best way to solve them.

3 Complete the second sentence so it means the same as the first.

Use one, two or three words.

- 0 The rain caused the river to flood.
The rain ... *made the river* ... flood.
- 1 The customs officer forced me to open my suitcase.
The customs officer my suitcase.
- 2 He said we shouldn't swim in the water because it was dangerous.
He warned swim in the water.
- 3 Secretaries learn to type in Sean's class.
Sean teaches in his class.
- 4 Our boss allowed us to go home early on Friday.
Our boss home early on Friday.
- 5 Maria couldn't fill in the application form so I helped her.
I helped Maria the application form.